

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A joint member used in joining a wiper arm and a wiper blade together, comprising:

a fitting member which is mounted on a wiper blade main-body and fits to the wiper arm;

a fixing member which holds and fixes the wiper arm between the fixing member and the fitting member; and

a flexible connecting portion which connects the fitting member and the fixing member together.

2. (Original) A joint member according to claim 1, wherein the fitting member fits into an inner side of a hook portion provided in the wiper arm, and the fixing member supports the hook portion by sandwiching the hook portion between the fixing member and the fitting member.

3. (Original) A joint member according to claim 2, wherein the fixing member is a case-like member which covers the fitting member and the hook portion.

4. (Currently Amended) A joint member according to claim 2 ~~claims 2 or 3~~, wherein the fixing member includes a side portion disposed on a side of the hook portion and a front portion disposed on a front end side of the side portion, whereby a leading end portion of the hook portion is supported by being sandwiched between the front portion and the fitting member.

5. (Currently Amended) A joint member according to claim 2 ~~any one of claims 2 to 4~~,

wherein the fixing member comprises side portions disposed on both sides of the hook portion and a front portion which spans across these side portions, whereby the hook portion is supported by being sandwiched between the front portion and the fitting member.

6. (Currently Amended) A joint member according to claim 2 ~~any one of claims 2 to 5~~, wherein the fixing member supports the hook portion by sandwiching the hook portion in such a manner that the side portion abuts against a part of the wiper blade main-body.

7. (Currently Amended) A joint member according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the fixing member is rotatably mounted on the wiper blade main-body.

8. (Original) A joint member according to claim 7, wherein the wiper blade main-body includes a mounting pin which extends orthogonally to the longitudinal direction of the wiper blade, and the fitting member includes a mounting portion which rotatably fits on the mounting pin.

9. (Currently Amended) A joint member according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, wherein the connecting portion connects the fitting member and the fixing member together at an end portion of the joint member.

10. (Currently Amended) A joint member according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, wherein the connecting portion connects the fitting member and the fixing member together on a side portion of the joint member.

11. (Currently Amended) The joint member according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~, wherein the connecting portion is a plate-like member.

12. (Currently Amended) The joint member according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~, wherein the fixing member, the fitting member and the connecting member are monolithically molded as one member.

13. (Currently Amended) A wiper blade which includes the joint member according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~.